

THE CENTERLINE

Fourth Quarter 2001
Vol.37, No.4

Published for the employees and families of the
Navy Public Works Center San Diego.

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Jim Hadden,
model maker with the
Technical Services Division,
makes adjustments to the
VF4 Milling Machine settings.



Top Side Quality Line

When I came to San Diego to be your new Commanding Officer, I never expected what would happen in the first couple of months. No words can adequately express my feelings about the attacks on New York and Washington, and the heroic efforts of the passengers on the flight that crashed in Pennsylvania. These incidents touched me particularly because I grew up outside of New York City and my last assignment was in Washington D.C. I believe we all felt overwhelming emotions as we witnessed the heroic efforts of the New York Fire and Police Departments trying to rescue the occupants of the World Trade Center, only to become victims themselves as the unthinkable happened when the buildings came down. I also believe we must continue to move forward with our lives, however they may have changed.

I came aboard in late August, and on 11 September, everything changed. The daily routines I used in conducting my life changed. The way I felt about my family and other people changed. Even the way I felt about myself and the job I was doing changed. And while I wish it was all back the way it used to be, I have to remind myself that I can't stop change from



happening... all I can do is try and change how I react to change. If you find yourself in a similar situation, I encourage you to accept that change will continue to occur. I would ask you to try and make change a positive influence in your life and recognize that you have a choice in how you react to change. For instance, as you find yourself waiting 30-45 minutes in line at the gate, rather than becoming angry or upset with the individual standing guard duty, for changing the amount of time it takes you to get to work, you might consider that that individual is doing his/her best to keep you safe at work so you can focus on your job.

Our job is to support the warfighter by providing the best public works products and

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THE CENTERLINE

The Centerline is published in the interest of personnel of the Navy Public Works Center, San Diego.

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services we can. Our purpose in serving our Navy and Marine Corps clients has never been more significant than it is right now. You've proven you can do that job very well. I would only ask that you stay focused on providing your best and realize that even your smallest contributions might make a difference or influence a change in someone else's life.

It has been an incredible first couple of months, and I am honored to be here serving our country with you. Please take care of yourself and take care of each other.

New Executive Officer Joins Navy Public Works Center San Diego

Capt. Mark Handley is the new Executive Officer for the Navy Public Works Center San Diego. Capt. Handley relived Capt. William Smith who transferred to United States Marine Corps. Capt. Handley was raised in Darien, Connecticut. He was commissioned through the Naval Reserve Officer Training program at Villanova University in 1981 where he graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering. He earned a Masters in Engineering (Construction) in 1986 at Stanford University. Capt. Handley assumed his present duties as Executive Officer of the Navy Public Works Center in August 2000.

Capt. Handley's first duty assignment was with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) THREE, Port Hueneme, California where he served as the Alfa Company Commander. He deployed with the battalion to Okinawa, Japan, and Rota, Spain. He was then assigned to the Naval Education and Training Center in Newport, Rhode Island, as the Activity Civil Engineer for the Naval War College. Upon completion of graduate School at Stanford University, Capt. Handley reported to Western Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, as Accessions Officer. Early in this tour, Capt. Handley was reassigned to the Acquisition Department where he served as Project Manager for Magna, Utah, in support of the Intermediate-

Range Nuclear Force (INF) Treaty with the former Soviet Union, and for Naval Air Stations Miramar and El Centro. Capt. Handley completed his tour at Western Division as the Head of the Environmental Contracts Division.



In June 1989, Capt. Handley attended the Defense Language School in preparation for his assignment as Resident Officer in Charge of Construction (ROICC), Vicenza, Italy. As ROICC, Capt. Handley directed major military construction projects throughout northern Italy. He also served as the U.S. representative for NATO Infrastructure construction on Italian Air Bases throughout Italy. In March 1993, Capt. Handley reported to OICC MIDPAC Hawaii as ROICC West Oahu. After disestablishment of OICC MIDPAC, he assumed duties as ROICC MIDPAC overseeing construction and contract management throughout the Mid-Pacific region. Reporting to the Pentagon in May 1996, Capt.

Handley served as the Head, Real Property Maintenance and Energy Branch for the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Logistics) responsible for the planning, programming and budgeting for the Navy's Real Property Maintenance accounts and as Energy Officer for the Navy. In September 1997, he was assigned as Executive Assistant to the Commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command and Chief of Civil Engineers.

Returning to the Seabees in 1999, Capt. Handley was the Commanding Officer of U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) FIVE. During his command tour, he led a 600-troop battalion during operational deployments to Okinawa and Puerto Rico, accomplishing overseas construction projects for the Fleet and the Marine Corps. During Capt. Handley's tenure, NMCB FIVE received both the Pacific Fleet Battle "E" and the Peltier Award for outstanding military engineering services in FY00.

Capt. Handley's personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal (four awards), the Navy Commendation Medal (two awards), and the Navy Achievement Medal. He is designated as a Seabee Combat Warfare Officer, a member of the Defense Acquisition Professional Community, and is a registered Professional Engineer in the State of Washington. Welcome aboard Capt. Handley!

Daimon Diggs New Comptroller at PWC

By Sherry Patrick
Public Affairs Specialist / Managing Editor

Financial Project Manager, Daimon Diggs, was selected as PWC's new Comptroller. Mr. Diggs is relieving Viola Ganious, who is transferring to the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Public Works Support Field Office as a Financial Systems Analyst.

Before joining the Navy Public Works Center San Diego team in 1995 as a Staff Accountant in the Command Evaluations Office, Mr. Diggs was an accountant with the Chicago Title Company in San Diego. He transferred to the Comptroller Department in 1998 where he worked as the financial project manager before being selected as the Comptroller for PWC.



Mr. Diggs began his federal service career by serving in the United States Army for three years. After leaving the Army he enrolled at San Diego State University, where he received a bachelors degree in accounting. He earned a masters degree in business administration from the University of Phoenix not long after.

Mr. Diggs' hobbies include golfing with the PWC Golfing Club and coaching Pop Warner Football for the Junior Midget Division and Little League Baseball.

Mr. Diggs said his plans for the Comptroller Department is to focus on the Center's greatest resource, people.

"Becoming a Comptroller is one of the many goals I've strived for, said Mr. Diggs. I am willing to accept the challenge that's ahead of me and I hope I am successful as the previous Comptrollers Fred Chambers, and Viola Gainous."

Congratulations Mr. Diggs on your selection as PWC Comptroller!



Command Evaluation

Did you know that if you place a fraud, waste, and abuse hotline call to the DOD IG or Navy IG hotline number they would task the investigation to the PWC Internal Review Office? This tasking process can take up to six months before I receive the complaint. If you want an investigation to begin promptly, call the PWC San Diego hotline number **(619) 556-8477**. All calls remain anonymous!

Carol Woolley
Command Evaluation Officer

Alice Jeffreys selected Employee of the Quarter Third Quarter 2001

By Sherry Patrick
Public Affairs Specialist / Managing Editor



Mechanical Engineer
Alice Jeffreys was selected
for Employee of the Quarter
for the Third Quarter.

Alice has been employed with PWC for 11 years. She began her career with PWC in the Engineering Department with the Design Division before transferring to the Utilities Business Line. Her duties involve the management of a number of Energy Management System Direct Digital Control (EMS/DDC) projects, which provides automated remote control of a given Building's energy usage in terms of air conditioning, heating, and

lighting. Alice is also the acting Contracting Officer Technical Representative for the energy and direct digital projects. She ensures the systems perform according to the specifications before payment is authorized to contractors. Her knowledge of the plans and specifications, combined with her attention to detail has won her the respect of the Energy Management System and Digital Direct Control contractors. Because of her dependability and long-term commitment, Alice is an invaluable asset to the success of the Center's EMS projects.

A graduate of San Diego State University, Alice received a bachelors of science degree in mechanical engineering and is licensed as a Professional Engineer in the state of California.

Alice was quite surprised when her named was announced as the recipient of the Employee of the Quarter for the Third Quarter award. "Receiving

this award is an honor. It is recognition for our successes to implement energy conservation strategies and measures in order to lessen the effects of the current energy crisis, Alice said. "I find it amazing that despite the limited resources we have, the teamwork, professionalism, and hardworking core that exists in the Utilities Department creates a work environment that produces nothing but positive results. I feel fortunate to be working with such a dedicated group that I accept this award on behalf of this team.

Congratulations, Alice,
on receiving the Employee of
the Quarter Award!



Donald Sosnowski is Safety Employee of the Quarter

By Public Affairs Staff



Don Sosnowski is Navy Public Works Center's Safety Employees of the Quarter for the Third Quarter. Mr. Sosnowski, a diver with the Transportation Business Line, is a volunteer safety coordinator for the Diving Division. He is in charge of the Divers Planned Maintenance System, which is critical when dealing with life support systems.

Mr. Sosnowski joined PWC in 1980 as a diver after serving four years in the U. S. Navy. He continued his military career as a Navy Reservist attached to the Explosive Ordinance disposal

unit. Unfortunately for PWC, Mr. Sosnowski's reserve unit was recently activated to duty since America's war on terrorism began in September.

This is the second time Mr. Sosnowski has been recognized with an employee award. In 1990 he received the Employee of the Quarter for the Second Quarter. He was nominated for this Safety Employee of the Quarter award by his supervisor, Bill Hansen, who believed Mr. Sosnowski's professional work ethic should be recognized. "Mr. Sosnowski's even temperament, combined with his willingness to go the extra mile when asked to perform a task has made him an asset of considerable value to the organization. He will be missed during this time of activation to active duty," said Bill Hansen, Diving Supervisor.

Congratulations, Mr. Sosnowski!

Employee Benefits Info

By Cristina D. McSkimming
Human Resources Office
Commander Navy Region Southwest

Effective October 15, 2001 the HRSC-SW will be implementing a new automated way by which all serviced employees may obtain general information, and/or access and make changes to their personal federal employee benefits (health/life insurance, Thrift Savings Plan, receive retirement calculations, etc.) This new automated systems is called-EMPLOYEE BENEFITS INFORMATION SYSTEM (EBIS).

The use of EBIS is optional. Employees are not required to utilize this system unless they wish to do so. All the current employee benefit services, and the manner by which our employees obtain, access or make changes to their individual federal employee benefits remain the same.

EBIS does however enhance the ability of all of our employees to access their individual information related to employee benefits directly from a desktop computer with internet access. In addition, EBIS will be accessible on the worldwide web from Desktops at the HRO Self-service Centers, public libraries, commercial printing shops and business centers.

For more information visit the HRSC-SW bulletin at:
[http://pwc.pwcsd.navy.mil/documentation/employee/civilian/Bulletin NR 8 \(EBIS\).doc](http://pwc.pwcsd.navy.mil/documentation/employee/civilian/Bulletin%20NR%208%20(EBIS).doc)

THE UNSUNG HEROES OF CODE 700

By Marc D. Santos

This is the second part of the article printed in the last issue of the Centerline. This article highlights several employees of the Transportation Business Line who perform their jobs daily in a professional manner, supporting their clients and co-workers. Recognition for their efforts are rarely broadcast, yet it is understood that these very special people are the front line in the Transportation Department and are charged to satisfy the transportation needs of the Navy.



Our first employee of note is Julia Hamm, she is a transplant from the Mare Island base closure. She is married and the mother of two sons, Bob and Earl. Julia's husband was also relocated to San Diego after Mare Island was closed. Julia has been with PWC San

Diego now for six years. Julia is currently working at the Fuel Desk in Transportation, which is located in building 3509 on Naval Station. Julia drove a diesel fuel truck for the first five years. She traveled from Tecate to Camp Pendleton, and out to Warner Springs servicing her clients. Julia says she loves meeting the many different people who make up the PWC Transportation client base.



Marc Flores works for Transportation as a dispatcher in building 3509, Naval Station. Marc has been with PWC for 13 years. He served in the U.S. Air Force as a Communications Clerk at Kelly AFB. Marc, who will turn 37 this June, has seen several major changes while working for Transportation, concerning management, client care, and the recent MEO (Most Efficient Organization) that began on February 1, 2001. On a

personal level, Marc's passions include global travel and interaction with other ethnic cultures. Professionally Marc does all that he can to satisfy his clients. He has worked along side Ms. Eunice Gipson his entire career. He says that due to their long working relationship he considers her to be a part of his family. Their relationship is very tight knit, and as a team they have the innate ability to cover for each other, knowing exactly what to do next.

Within Transportation is the Weight Test and Certification division (WT&C). Within that division works Pat





Palen, a GS-9 Engineering Technician. Pat started working for PWC 10 years ago, in May of 1991, and he has spent the last two years in WT&C. He was originally hired as a WG-1 in the Navy Cooperative Education Program. Pat eventually became a mechanic and worked at Naval Station repairing automobiles. Pat is very enthusiastic about his job as an Engineering Technician. His eyes light up and a broad smile crosses his face when he talks about working on the cranes, performing inspections that test the limits of the cranes beyond those of normal operations. Pat says that the most challenging aspect of his job is working with the wide range of customer representatives with diverse personalities, and who all must be dealt with professionally. Pat is married and has a three-year-old daughter, he also enjoys kayaking and the great outdoors.

Bob works in the Transportation Crane and Rigging division (C&R). He has been with C&R for more than 11 years now. Bob came to PWC from a shipyard in San



Pedro, were he worked for approximately 27 years. Bob says that his job with PWC is a good job and that he likes working with Nick Romani, C&R leader. Bob is married, and he has three daughters and five grandchildren. He likes to head for the heat of the local desert where he owns some property, he also says he likes to relax when he gets out to his place and eat.

One of my favorite unsung heroes is Nick Romani, a crane operator/lead man in the C&R division. Nick is 52 years old and has worked for PWC approximately 30 years now. He is a rather large man, but his size will not intimidate you once you hear his laugh. Nick says that he comes to work everyday with a smile on his face. Sherry Patrick wants him to play Santa for Lindbergh/Schweitzer this year. Nick has seen a lot of

changes, but what amazes him the most is that in his line of work, things seem to keep getting "bigger and heavier." Nick has been involved with aircraft recovery operations off the coast of San Diego and he has loaded or unloaded almost every Naval ship that has called San Diego its homeport. He told that his to favorite hobbies are "fishing and crane operating" because he said, "I gotta have a hook in my hands." Nick is a world record holding fisherman, whom is married and has two sons, 34 and 35 years old, which are both unmarried at this time. As for his plans, he says that he will retire from PWC at 55. I asked him if he was sure about his plans and he answered, "you betcha!"

Art Felder is a quiet, thoughtful man with a hidden sense of humor, who serves the Navy everyday as a bus driver on North Island. Art has worked for Transportation for





17 years now, starting out as a forklift operator. He says that he “just likes driving” and that he enjoys having a job to do where the only pressure is trying to stay on schedule. When I asked Art his age he asked me if I wanted the truth. Art is 57 years old, but he looks like he is in his earlier 40s, if left up to Art he is 39 years old. Art is married, he has one daughter who has provided him with three grandchildren. He also has a dog named “Six pack.” One guess on the dog’s name is all you get. Art is a fisherman and likes to try his luck at our local lakes, especially the lake at Camp Pendleton. I asked him if he catches a lot and he replied, “when I go, no.” It seems that Art truly loves the relaxation part of fishing we have all heard about. Art plans to continue to work for PWC until January 2005. Maybe by then he will have some really good fishing stories.



Manny Flores is an

aircraft towman, he has been with PWC for 25 years and has worked on North Island for 29 years in all. Manny came out of the Army and initially worked for the Supply department on North Island. As a towman, Manny has towed F-14, F-18, S-3, C-2, E-2 aircraft, and Cobra and H-63 helicopters just to name a few. Manny says that the C-2 and E-2 aircraft are by far the most difficult to tow because of their dimensions. Yet he has an excellent safety record for his more than 15 years of towing. Manny also drives truck tractor-trailer combinations, which is another portion of his duties. He prefers aircraft towing to truck driving because of the shorter periods of time spent in the driver’s seat. Manny loves the challenge of backing aircraft into confined spaces, which is no small task because you have to master the action of dual pivot points. I know this part of aircraft towing is difficult, I tried it, once. Multi-million dollar aircraft are safer when Manny is doing the towing. Manny modestly admits to being just a “good” towman, yet his philosophy about towing is rock solid, “take your time and be aware of your

surroundings.” Manny plans on retiring at 55 and spend time with his grandchildren, and he will probably continue play baseball in his spare time, he likes playing second-base or shortstop on his hardball team.

Richard Hernandez is a mechanic at North Island who has worked for the Navy for nearl 24 years. He began his career at NAS Miramar and was consolidated into PWC in 1991. Richard says that there are fewer people now to perform the work in relationship to the number of people he started out with at Miramar. Richard says he works on an average of three



different vehicles a day, as well as serving as the tow-truck operator. He takes pride in his work and is very determined to do the job right. At 47 years old, Richard says that he plans to work until he turns 62 or 63.



He is married with no children as of yet. Among his favorite hobbies are things like fishing, picnics, and family gatherings. Once he reaches his retirement age, Richard wants to see Niagara Falls, the Washington Monument and many other places he has read or heard about. He told me though; he does not want to go to any amusement parks, hmmm.



Pam Olona, known by many at North Island as the highly energetic transportation assistant in the repair shop (she says she runs in “hyper-overdrive all the time”), she loves her job because it gives her “a good feeling to be here.” She has worked for PWC for nine years now, and the majority of that time has been in her current position. Her time in the shop was interrupted when a RIF sent her to Contracts for about six months. Pam says now that Transportation has moved over to Fleet Manager, her job is changed dramatically, things are

not done the way they were and the transition has been the biggest challenge to date. Pam says that she is the “Mother Teresa” of North Island when it comes to helping her clients, they frequently ask for her by name. Anyone who knows Pam also knows she is a devoted Denver Broncos fan, often decorating her surroundings with team photos, pennants, and colors. She was really hard to get down off the ceiling when the Broncos won the Super bowl several years ago (her perfect dream is sitting on the 50-yard line and watch the Broncos win the Super bowl, again). Pam is a Navy wife, she has no children yet, but she enjoys football (likes yelling for some defensive guy to “rip their heads off!”), gardening and lying in the sun getting a tan.



Our last, but certainly not least heroine is June Bentley, who is a 14-year veteran of PWC Transportation. June works as

a transportation assistant at Naval Station where she processes billing, plant property, and accident and abuse incidents, so she has her hands full everyday. June is as tough as they come, but underneath she has a heart of gold (she’s gonna get me for saying that). June is noted for her veracity and no nonsense approach to her job. But few people really get to know her as I have, she certainly is a professional and extremely intelligent, something she tries to hide. But June also has a serious sense of humor coupled with a tremendous dose of wit. She has desires of someday advancing in her current field of expertise. June has seen many changes come down the line, and she says that the changes in management have been the largest. One positive point she cited was Dave Brown who recently came over from North Island and now works in the office as her supervisor. June is quiet the baker, she makes one of the best peach cobblers I have ever eaten, however, she says she likes pecan pie. I asked her how many children she has, she said 12, which includes some of the people she works with in Transportation. It was hard getting a straight answer from her, but it was fun. Good luck June.

Navy Public Works Center San Diego Receives 2001 President's Quality Award Recognition

The Navy Public Works Center, San Diego (PWCSO) received the President's Quality Award (PQA) for Quality Improvement at the 2001 President's Quality Award ceremony at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, D.C.. The PQA Program is the federal government's equivalent of the Malcolm Baldrige Award for Performance Excellence in the private sector. Only six Navy commands have reached the Finalist level over the past 14 years. PWCSO is the first Navy Region Southwest Command and the first Pacific Fleet Command ever to reach this level, and did so despite this being the first time they submitted an application.

Several years ago, PWCSO established a vision of becoming a World-class provider of public works products and services. They identified the Baldrige and PQA programs as a way of getting experts to evaluate their progress by testing against a set of widely recognized measures of highly successful organizations. After doing self-assessments for several years, and improving their strategic plan, PWCSO decided it was time to formally apply for the PQA.

The Program's process requires submission of a detailed application describing the organization's performance in



seven areas of evaluation considered essential for achieving excellence. The seven areas, which mirror those of the Baldrige criteria, are: Leadership; Strategic Planning; Customer Focus; Information and Analysis; Human Resources; Process Management; and Business Results.

A panel of experts reviews this write-up, and decides whether the organization has progressed enough to merit a site visit from a team of PQA examiners. If selected for a site visit, the team of examiners spends an intensive several days with the organization, clarifying and verifying the information in the application. For the 2001 program, only nine federal government organizations were selected to receive a site visit. Following the site visit, a panel of judges reviews the application and site visit results and gives the activity a final score.

The PQA is administered by the Office of Personnel Management and includes four awards: The Presidential Award for Quality, which is for sustained improvements over several years, and the Award for Quality Improvement, which is for achieving early results in an organization's quality journey. There are also Merit and Finalist Awards. Presentation of awards to winning organizations will take place at the Excellence in Government Conference in Washington D.C., in August 2001.

PWC San Diego is one of nine Public Works Centers in the Navy. It is under operational control of the Commander, Navy Region Southwest, located in San Diego, California and receives technical and financial guidance from the Naval Facilities Engineering Command in Washington, D.C. The Navy Public Works Center, San Diego provides public works products and services to Navy and Marine Corps clients in the San Diego metropolitan area. A Civil Engineer Corps Captain commands PWCSO, which is made up of nearly 1,700 civilian employees and Civil Engineer Corps Officers. Providing a full range of facilities services, including maintenance, utilities, transportation, environmental and maintenance engineering products and services, PWCSO has been serving its clients since 1963.

For Your Eyes Only

By John P. Thomas
Safety Coordinator
Maintenance Business Line

“For Your Eyes Only,” a James Bond adventure movie, had nothing to do with eyes. The title of this article has a lot to do with eyesight and what you can do to protect it. Your eyes are one of your most important senses. Just think what your life would be like, if you were to tragically lose your sight.

Safety glasses, welder’s glasses, safety goggles, and face shields are your best protection against an eye injury. Safety glasses, safety goggles, face shields are your best protection against an eye injury.

Safety glasses are your first and best defense against eye injury. Safety glasses should fit comfortably, especially if worn for long periods of time. Ensure that your safety glasses have side shields and approved lenses. The lenses must be able to withstand impact, without shattering. The side-shields protect the eye from flying debris that

can find its way around lenses of glasses.

Safety goggles are used in conjunction with safety glasses. Most goggles will fit over safety glasses and have vents on the sides to prevent fogging. Safety goggles help in certain instances where liquids are used and a small degree of splashing is involved.

For complete face protection, a face shield that fits on the head and covers the face from forehead to below the chin, should be utilized. A face shield is used where splash effect is large and possibly constant. Never use a face shield in place of safety glasses. It is not designed as primary eye protection. It is important to **always use your safety glasses as your primary eye protection.**

Welder’s glasses are designed for those who work around bright light due to welding. In addition to U V light protection, most welders also include a face shield with

a visor for added eye and face protection. Welder’s glasses are as shatterproof as safety glasses and should be used as primary eye protection when welding.

Some of you reading this may say “I’ve heard it all before”. But, if you can try this small experiment at your home, with someone around to assist. Close your eyes; next go from where you are standing, to the kitchen. I’m willing to say that you will find it uncomfortable and a bit scary. Why? Because, we all rely on our sight to move around comfortably and safely in our daily lives.

